

# **Cedar River Anadromous Fish Committee**

## **Summary Minutes**

**August 21, 2003**

**Meeting Time 9:30 AM - 1:00 PM**

### **Meeting Location:**

**Metering Building, Second Floor Conference Room**

**SPU Operations Control Center**

**2700 Airport Way South**

**Seattle, WA**

**Members and Alternates Present:** Bruce Bachen (SPU), Frank Urabeck (Trout Unlimited), Sam Wright (WA Trout), Chuck Wischman (Puget Sound Anglers), Tom Sibley and Phillis Meyers (NMFS), Tim Romanski (USFWS), and Hans Berge (KC).

**Other Participants:** Brodie Antipa, Dave Seiler, and Joan Thomas (WDFW), Bill Robinson (public), and Paul Faulds (SPU)

### **I. Call to order**

*Bruce called the meeting to order at 9:40 AM.*

### **II. Approval of agenda**

*Members unanimously approved the revised meeting agenda.*

### **III. Meeting minutes review and approval from July 17th**

*Members unanimously approved the meeting minutes.*

### **IV. AFC Membership**

#### ***Changes in AFC membership***

*Bruce noted that Phyllis Meyers from NMFS was present with Tom at the meeting and he asked Tom to introduce her to the AFC. Tom said that Phyllis would be the new voting member for NMFS on the AFC and he would move to the alternate position. Phyllis is part of the Central Puget Sound Region at NMFS and has been involved with the Brightwater HCP. Bruce thanked Tom for his involvement with the AFC over the last few years.*

#### ***Unfilled stakeholder position***

*Bruce noted the LMA Parties approved Franks Urabeck as the representative of Trout Unlimited on the AFC. The vacancy on the AFC resulting from the resignation of Bill Robinson remains unfilled. The process to fill this vacancy is to identify and solicit prospective stakeholders and try and fill the position by early November 2003.*

### **V. Landsburg Fish Passage Project**

#### ***Project update***

*Bruce informed members that the draft fish ladder operations manual is still undergoing modifications and is not ready for review.*

***Landsburg Fish Passage dedication event October 8<sup>th</sup>, at 10:00 AM.***

*Bruce informed members the Landsburg Fish Passage dedication was scheduled at Landsburg on October 8, 2003 at 10:00 AM.*

**VI. Cedar River sockeye hatchery program**

***Recommend marking and release strategies for 2003***

*Bruce noted that last year WDFW placed 9 thermal marks on the hatchery fry and applied 8 marks on fry in the short term rearing study. The objective of last year's marking plan was to identify production fry by release location and time of release and to identify the fry in the rearing study by experimental and control groups and by time of release. He voiced some concern on how difficult it might be to compare marks from year to year with 17 or more marks. Bruce asked members if they wanted to recommend to WDFW to repeat the marking scheme used last year. Hearing no objection from members, Bruce said SPU would begin developing an agreement with WDFW for marking fry in the same manner as last year.*

***Status of weir report and adoption of weir operating protocols for 2003***

*Brodie stated the report that assesses the effectiveness of the weir operating protocols for 2002 was not yet available. Past reports were done by Hal Michaels, but he is no longer available. Brodie said that if the report was required for permitting the weir then he would make sure it was done. He reported that all of the weir permits should be in hand in about a week.*

***60% completion hatchery design review***

*Bruce updated members on the review process. Brodie said he had received comments from the other department members at WDFW and should provide comments to Bruce in about a week.*

**VII. Interim mitigation program for coho, chinook and steelhead**

***Population survey***

*Dave Seiler briefed members on the trout population survey conducted in the Cedar River. The study began July 14, 2003. Two teams (2 rods each) conducted a hook and line survey from Landsburg to the mouth of the Cedar River at Renton.*

***O. mykiss genetics study sample collection***

*Brodie informed members the sampling was almost done and the 50 samples were needed from above the Chester Morris Lake.*

***Adult pit tag study at the locks***

*Paul provided a brief update on the pit tag detection project for adults at the locks. He noted that a feasibility report should be generated soon which should indicate noise levels should not be a problem however there were some noise spikes that need to be addressed.*

***Recolonization study update***

*Bruce asked members if there was an interest in looking at past data on colonization of newly accessible habitat with downriver stocks. He noted that it may be beneficial to pull together existing information and review how colonization approaches have worked.*

**VIII. Public comment (scheduled for 11:30)**

*Bill recommended prudence and forethought before opening the Cedar River for fishing.*

***Hatchery EIS update***

*Bruce noted that through mutual agreement by both parties the hearing had been delayed to end of Sept. and first week of Oct. This was done to allow time for discussions of a potential settlement.*

***Weir permits***

*Brodie reported the WDFW had received the ACOE permit, KC condition use permit, HPA, and in a week WDFW should have the grading and shorelines exemption permit.*

***Expected report Fall/Spring surveys from Dave Beauchamp***

*Paul noted the 2002 fall and 2003 spring would be available in September.*

***Fish counts at the locks***

*The Muckleshoot Tribe had estimated that as of yesterday 211,000 sockeye over 7,000 chinook had entered the locks.*

***IX. Adjourn***

*The meeting adjourned at 1:00 PM.*